Marc Plouffe Photography



I take photographs which I transform into Images.

Doomed by Nature

A visual perspective, a photographic essay, about the Salton Sea as it is today after the calamities it has endured in the last 100 plus years. The Salton Sea has been plagued by natural disasters and its geographic attributes with a helping hand from mankind.

This collection of images represents my view, my vision of what is left, which is not much in relationship to what was there during the heyday of this area.

The few small towns that are left, offer a stunning look at dilapidation at it's best.

Outside of these towns, along the so-called beach, very little remains. The yacht clubs, the marinas and other various entertainment venues once frequented by the rich, the not so rich and the famous, have for the most part disappeared into oblivion.

What is left, a few abandoned buildings, some concrete foundations, various unrecognizable old wood structures, some poles and piers now only frequented by birds, mostly pelicans, offer a tiny glimpse of what was and what could have been.

What is left is an interesting, somewhat depressing area, that offers great opportunities for anyone to explore and embrace Solitude.

Wanting to Rest

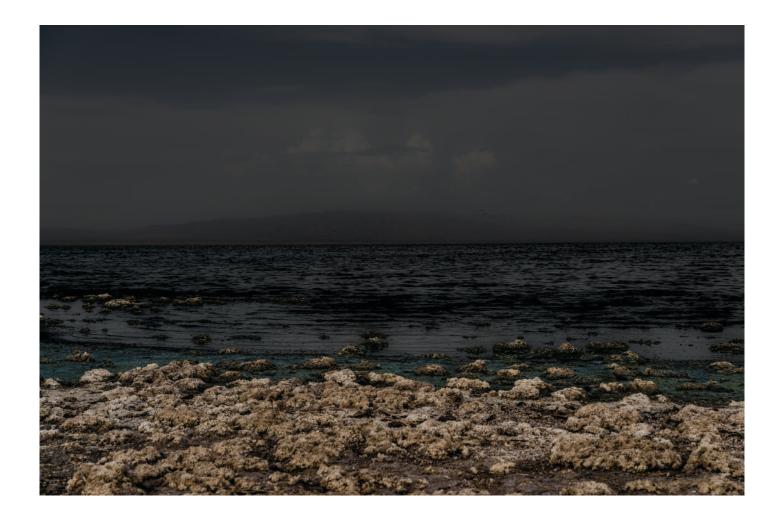


Pelican Sentry



Swaying

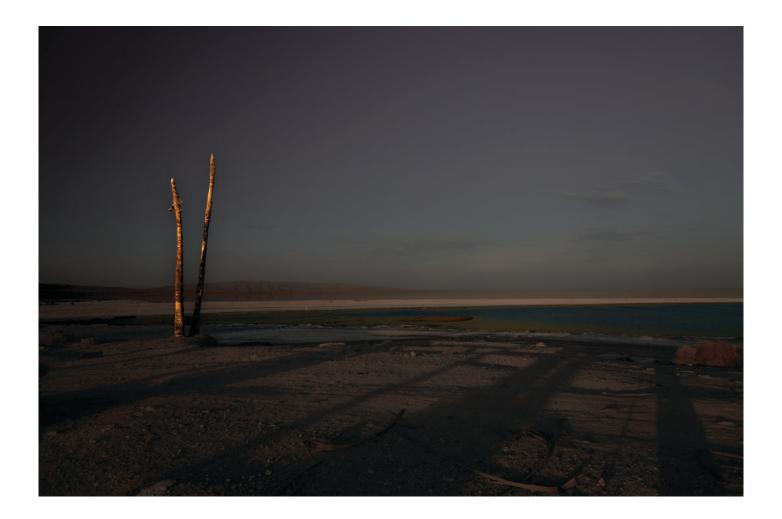




Gorgeous Sandy Beach



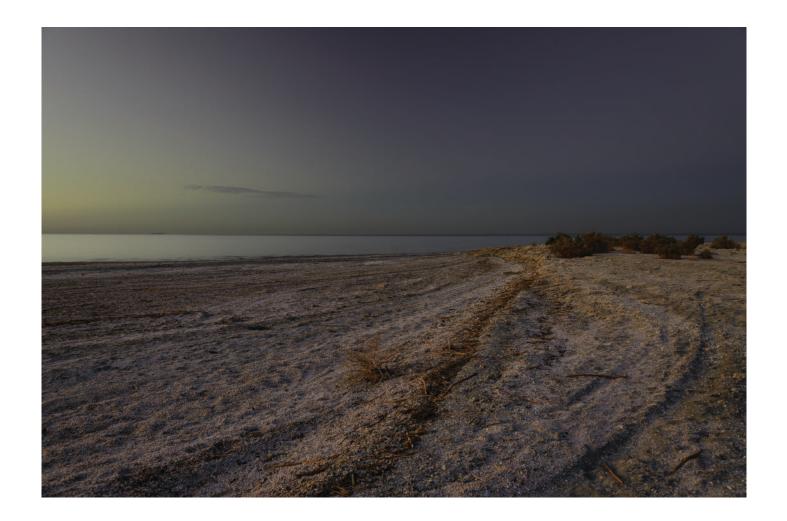
Enjoying the Sun



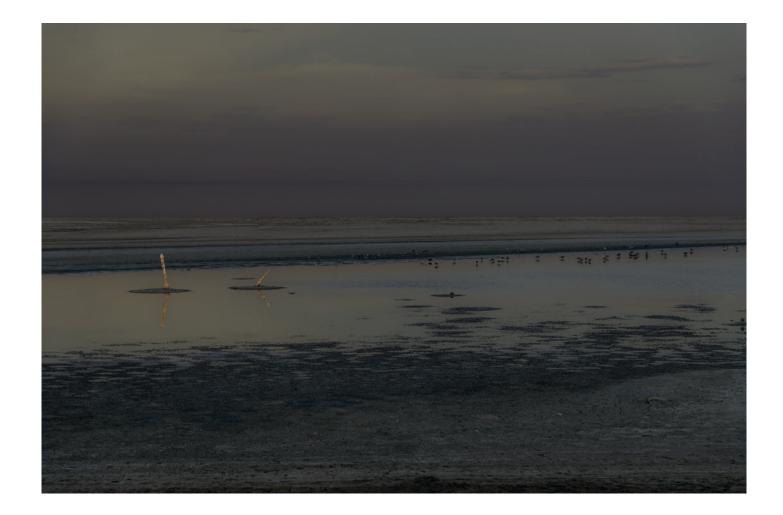
Sunset Shadows



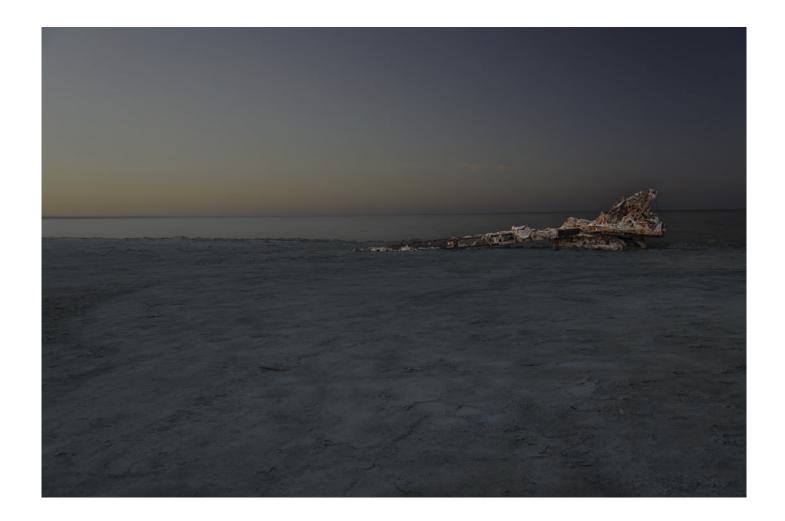
Stairway to Darkness



Waves of Fish Bones



Sunset Reflections



Worn Out



Back in the Day



RIP

Signs of the Times

A visual perspective, a photographic essay, about a variety of Signs in the surroundings of the Salton Sea as it is today after the calamities it has endured in the last 100 plus years. The Salton Sea has been plagued by natural disasters and its geographic attributes with a helping hand from mankind.

This collection of images represents my view, my vision of a variety of signs that are found in various areas of the Salton Sea, some still useful, some of them not so much and others which seem to have absolutely no useful purpose.

Some can be found by the various beaches, others within the few small towns that are left, towns which offer a stunning look at dilapidation at it's best.

One cannot avoid wondering what life by the Salton Sea was like in it's heyday, when every one of these signs had a useful purpose.

What was life like in that area, when the rich, not so rich and the famous frequented the area in search of recreation?

Salvation Mountain



Johnson Sign



Why?



2 Palms & Sign



Blank Sign



Really



Palm & Sign



Keep Right



Ski Inn



Buried Alive



The End

Moon Light – Joshua Tree

A visual perspective, a photographic essay, of images taken at night under a full moon, in the Joshua Tree National Park, where the Mojave and Colorado Deserts come together.

The creation of these images, offers great opportunities to enjoy the tranquility of quiet nights in the desert and solitude. This is an experience that needs to be lived in order to understand what solitude, tranquility and serenity is all about.

This series of images is about expressing a mood and a frame of mind rather than a social, political or other statement.

For me, a student of light and it's qualities, a full moon gives me a very interesting soft light that cannot be found at any other time of the day or in any other lighting conditions. Joshua Tree 03



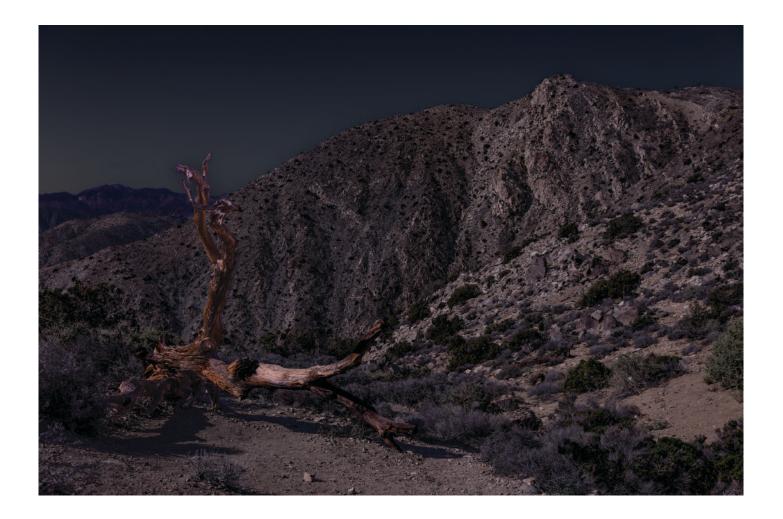
Joshua Tree 04

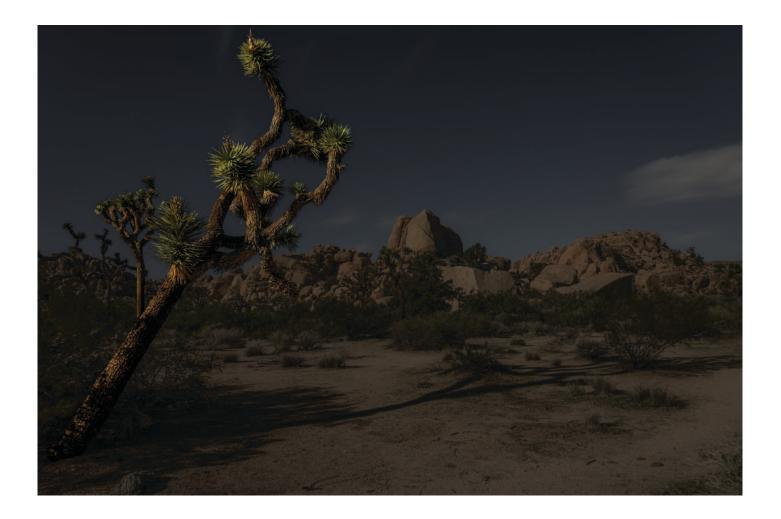


Joshua Tree 06











A visual perspective, a photographic essay, of images taken at night under a full moon, in the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument National Park, located in the Sonoran Desert.

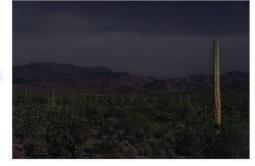
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For me, a student of light and it's qualities, a full moon gives me a very interesting soft light that cannot be found at any other time of the day or in any other lighting conditions.

The experience of photographing in this area at night under a full moon also adds some nervousness, trepidation and some fear due to have been informed by Border Patrol agents that the full moon brings out the drug mules in this area. I did not experience any drama in this area, except that, I was informed by an agent that some drug mules crossed the road about half a mile from where I was working.

Organ Pipe Cactus 06



Organ Pipe Cactus 08



Organ Pipe Cactus 09









A visual perspective, a photographic essay, of images taken at night under a full moon, in the Saguaro National Park, located in the Sonoran Desert.

The creation of these images, offers great opportunities to enjoy the tranquility of quiet nights in the desert and solitude. This is an experience that needs to be lived in order to understand what solitude, tranquility and serenity is all about.

This series of images is about expressing a mood and a frame of mind rather than a social, political or other statement.

For me, a student of light and it's qualities, a full moon gives me a very interesting soft light that cannot be found at any other time of the day or in any other lighting conditions.

Usually, when shooting pictures using a full moon as the only source of light, clouds can be a problem. When I was shooting this portfolio, we had thunderstorms late afternoon and early evening. After the thunderstorms, I had to wait for the clouds to move in order to start shooting. Having to wait to shoot is painful, but the results of the combination of the moon light and the clouds, make it well worth it. Saguaro Desert 07



Saguaro Desert 08



Saguaro Desert 11















In Search of Solitude

I began taking photographs at a very young age. Though I didn't always realize it, as I look back over 50 years of work I can see that the exploration of solitude has always been the driving force behind my work.

I strive to capture and convey in my work a sense of solitude. My images capture quiet landscapes that instill a sense of self-awareness and invite reflection. In my images the world of noise and chaos fall away and the viewer is invited to reflect on quieter spaces.

Each image is carefully crafted, the colors and tones balanced to create depth. My palette is filled with billions of colors. I wield those colors to create mood and atmosphere – to convey the sense of solitude I seek as I work.

"Solitude is the state of being alone without being lonely. It is a positive and constructive state of engagement with oneself. Solitude is desirable, a state of being alone where you provide yourself wonderful and sufficient company.

Solitude is a time that can be used for reflection, inner searching or growth or enjoyment of some kind. Deep reading requires solitude, so does experiencing the beauty of nature. Thinking and creativity usually do too."

"What Is Solitude?" - psychologytoday.com

I will continue searching for solitude. Wish me luck and I hope that you will enjoy the fruits of my search.

Marc

Lupus Vision

What is Lupus Vision? Lupus Vision is the term that I now use to describe how I now see the world around me.

Let me explain. I have been plagued with various medical conditions starting in 2010. The first condition that I was diagnosed with is Low Grade Lupus. Lupus is a very strange and complicated disease. Every Lupus patient has a different set of symptoms and complications.

For me, the main symptoms that cause what I call Lupus Vision, are detachment, memory problems, confusion and soft vision. Detachment is like having six beers without the buzz. I feel like I am not quite in touch with my surroundings. Memory problems cause me to forget various things in strange and non-sensical patterns. Confusion causes me at times to completely loose touch with the world around me.

Take these problems with a somewhat softer vision and you have what I call Lupus Vision. I see the main subject that I am looking at clearly, but the surroundings are softer and have a light glow. I created a process in Photoshop to somewhat replicate in my images what I call Lupus Vision.

In December 2013, I was diagnosed with White Matter Ischemic Disease which will gradually add to my confusion, memory and detachment symptoms with the end game being dementia.

I am also in pain 24/7 in my back and hips caused by Lupus and the surgeries on my hands in the first part of 2013. All of this makes up my new world.

In all my galleries, I attempt to share with you my vision of what surrounds me and bring you into my space. Every image is created to reduce the noise of everyday life, hopefully to help you see the beauty of items that we see every day without really noticing them.

I invite you to join me in my new world, which looks very different from what it looked like before.

Thank You

Marc

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